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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

EUROPE-AFRICA DIVISION

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-DIVISION

WESTERN EUROPEAN SECTION

22 September 1943

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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MEMORANDA ON DUTCH COLLABORATIONIST ORGANIZATIONS

(Prepared for the Office of War Information,
Bureau of Research and Analysis)

Request No. 137

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MEMORANDA ON DUTCH COLLABORATIONIST ORGANIZATIONS

Nazi Parties

NS Beweging van Nederland — Leader: Anton Mussert

Name changed to Nationaal Socialistische Beweging der Nederlanden, abbreviation: NSBDN; but the movement is still known as the NSB.

According to a New York Times dispatch of 21 December 1942, Mussert claimed 35,000 members. However, Ir. C. Huygens, Secretary-General of the NSB, in a statement made on 23 February 1943, claimed 110,000 members, while Mussert himself on 21 April 1943 claimed over 100,000 members.

Para-Military Formations

WA-Weer Afdeeling — Leader: A. J. Zonderman — 25,000

Recruitment for the WA has fallen off sharply because of its competition with NSB military and para-military formations. The exact number who are now enrolled is not known.

Lijfwacht: Mussert

On 12 March 1943 Mussert declared: "Members of the NSB will have to have arms and will have to be protected." This is the only time "een lijfwacht" has been mentioned as far as known. This announcement by Mussert followed the many political assassinations of NSB-ers during February.

Marechaussee — Lt.Col. Feenstra

Not a para-military organization but a part of the Dutch police system. It existed since 1813 and still functions under the present arrangement.

Landwacht

See under Military Formations

Military Formations

Landwacht

Established March 1943 as a newly formed Netherlands Territorial Defense Force, with enlistment open to all Dutchmen between 17 and 50 who could not enlist in Waffen SS or Volunteer Legion. It was founded as a para-military Home Guard but trained as a regular army unit. Both Rauter and Mussert declared: "The Landwacht may be used everywhere." SS Polizeifuehrer Rauter is their highest and final authority but the Dutch leader is Oberfuehrer Knapp. On 14 June 1943 the 1st Battalion completed training. No later strength is given.

Dutch SS Leader: Feldmeyer Membership: 15,000

On 1 November 1942 the name was changed to "Germaansche SS in Nederland."

Dutch Volunteer Legion

Mussert announced in Volk en Vaderland, 23 July 1943, "The Legion will be reorganized into Pantsergrenadier Division Nederland." The strength of the Volunteer Legion has been given as 2100. The total number of Dutch people on the Eastern front has been given as 12,000. Their former head was Lt.-Gen. Seyffard, who was assassinated in February 1943.

NSKK

This is a corps of motor vehicle drivers. On 31 May 1943 their strength was given as 2 regiments.

Party Formations

Nationaal Socialistische Vrouwen Organisatie

Miss Couzy replaced Mrs. De Ruiter.

Youth Groups

Nationale Jeugd Storm Leader: C. van Geelkerken
Membership: 18,000

NJHC-Nederlandsche Jeugdherberg Centrale

This was taken over by the NJS. The Centrale still operates its houses but only for the benefit of the members of the NJS.

Centrale-Netherlands Youth Hostel Assn.

Meta section of the NSVO

It was founded 2 June 1943 with Miss Couzy as leader. As yet the strength of the Meta is not known.

Labor Organizations

NAF Leader: H. J. Woudenberg Membership: 350,000

The claim of 350,000 members was made by H. J. Woudenberg. However, this number includes all names automatically inscribed without express permission or knowledge of the laborer.

NAD Leader: L. A. C. de Bock 72 camps

The quota for induction on 1 July 1943 was 11,000 men.

Arbeidsdienst Meisjes Miss J. Hylckema (acting head)

Dutch-Germanic Landdienst Leader: Hopman De Rijke